



PATENT
514274-2001

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Scotti *et al.*
Serial No. : 09/868,760
Filed : July 31, 2001
For : SERINE PROTEASE INHIBITORS
Examiner : Y. Pak
Group Art Unit : 1652

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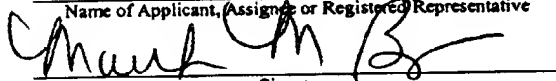
745 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10151

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
RESPONSE AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Marilyn Mathes Brogan, Reg. No. 31,223

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative


Signature

October 27, 2004

Date of Signature

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Advisory Action mailed on October 20, 2004, setting a one month term for reply, and in further response to the final Office Action mailed on June 23, 2004, setting a three-month period for reply. No fee is believed to be due for entry and consideration of this paper; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

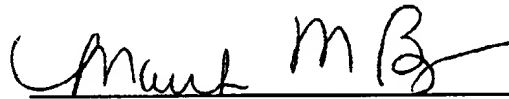
Examiner has indicated allowable subject matter and then reneged. (The first time was on December 11, 2003 when she telephoned Applicants' representative seeking authorization for a minor Examiner's Amendment.) The piecemeal examination that has predominated in this case has led to inefficiencies and unnecessary expenditures by both Applicants and the PTO, as well as extreme prejudice to Applicants in terms of shortened patent protection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks and amendments herewith, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance, or at least in better condition for appeal. Favorable reconsideration of the application and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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